REMARKS

The claims of this U.S. national phase of a PCT application were amended to reduce the number of claims and remove multiple dependencies in order to reduce the filing fee. No new subject matter has been added, nor has the scope of the claims been amended.

Enclosed herewith is the ISR and Forms SB/08a and SB/08b listing the art cited in the ISR. We understand copies of the art cited in the ISR will be forwarded to the PTO by the International Authorities.

If there are any questions or comments regarding this Preliminary Amendment or application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney as indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June <u>22</u>, 2006

Lisa M. Schoedel

Registration No. 53,564

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

300 South Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60606

Telephone: 312-913-0001 Facsimile: 312-913-0002